



PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Michael J. Weiner et al.
Serial No. 08/949,525
Filing Date: Oct. 14, 1997
Confirmation No.: 8206

Examiner: D. Meislahn
Art Group: 2132
Our file no. 10500.97.8271
Docket No. ENT970827-1

Title: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING UPDATED ENCRYPTION KEY
PAIRS AND DIGITAL SIGNATURE KEY PAIRS IN A PUBLIC KEY SYSTEM**

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11/5/01
Date:

Rosalie Swanson
Rosalie Swanson

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 20, 2001, please amend the above-captioned application to read as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend Claim 5, 19 and 25 as follows:

In particular, please substitute the below claim for the indicated pending claim with the same number:

5. (Once amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

determining a digital signature private key lifetime end date and a digital signature certificate creation date upon a user login to the public key system;

initiating, by a client unit, a digital signature key pair update request based on whether a difference between a current date and the digital signature private key lifetime end date (t1) is